

AMENDMENT

The following listing of the claims replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

Listing of Claims:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method of farm-raising marine species of fish that are still in the growing stage, which comprises feeding the fish a feed that comprises 25-70% by weight of proteins, 5-60% by weight of lipids, 0-40% by weight of carbohydrates, and 0-15% by weight of one or more additional components, wherein the lipids comprise at least one oil selected from the group consisting of marine oils and vegetable oils, wherein said at-least-one oil has been treated with at least one nitrogen-containing compound selected from the group consisting of urea and compounds of the general formula



wherein each of R1, R2, and R3 is independently a radical selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl, RC(O)-, RN(H)-C(O)-, and RN(H)-C(O)-C(O)- wherein R is H, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, or C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl, with the proviso that at least one of R1, R2, and R3 is other than H, the amount of said at-least-one nitrogen-containing compound being sufficient to reduce the oil's susceptibility to being degraded through oxidation,

and the amount of said at-least-one oil in the feed being sufficient to enhance the feed's ability to either improve the survival rate of the fish or improve the growth rate of the fish.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the at-least-one oil has been treated with the at-least-one nitrogen-containing compound either by (a) heating a mixture of the oil and the nitrogen-containing compound or (b) reacting the oil with a mixture of the nitrogen-containing compound and water.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein, in treatment (a), the mixture is heated to a temperature above the melting point of the nitrogen-containing compound for a time period of approximately 20-30 minutes.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein, in treatment (b), the aqueous mixture contains 0.1-50% by weight of the nitrogen-containing compound.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the treating of the oil occurs before the oil is added to the feed, and wherein the treated oil, prior to being added to the feed, is subjected to a separation step by which unreacted nitrogen-containing compound is first removed from the oil.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the at-least-one oil is treated with the at-least-one nitrogen compound while the oil is in admixture with the other components of the feed.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of either of claims 11 or 12, wherein the fish comprises fry.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of either of claims 11 or 12, wherein the feed also comprises at least one or more antioxidants.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of either of claims 11 or 12, wherein the feed does not contain a significant amount of carotenoids.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of either of claims 11 or 12, wherein the feed does not contain a significant amount of carotenoids, the feed also comprises at least one or more antioxidants, and the fish comprise fry.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the fish is selected from the group consisting of cod and halibut.

18-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the fish is selected from the group consisting of cod and halibut.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the fish is selected from the group consisting of cod and halibut.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of either of claims 21 or 22, wherein the fish comprises fry.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of either of claims 21 or 22, wherein the feed also comprises at least one or more antioxidants.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of either of claims 21 or 22, wherein the feed does not contain a significant amount of carotenoids.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of either of claims 21 or 22, wherein the feed does not contain a significant amount of carotenoids, the feed also comprises at least one or more antioxidants, and the fish comprise fry.